

Handout: Exodus Lesson 9

At every stage of the journey out of Egypt to the rendezvous point at Mt. Sinai where Moses first encountered God at the burning bush, God demonstrated His love and protection of Israel. This was a courtship journey where Israel learned to trust God to provide for the needs of His people and where the people learned to be obedient to God's commands.

Works of God on the courtship journey to the rendezvous at Mt. Sinai:

1. The miracle of the pillar of cloud and fire
2. The parting of the Yam Suph and God's victory over the Egyptian army
3. The sweetening of the bitter water at Marah
4. The miracle of the quails
5. The miracle of the manna—bread from heaven
6. The miracle of the life-giving water from the rock
7. The defeat of the Amalekites at Rephidim

In *The Pentateuch as Narrative*, Sailhamer notes an interesting pattern with the manna and quail, the Scriptural reference to forty years, and the Israelites' entrance into the Promised Land forty years later when the gift of the manna ended. The miracle of the quail is only mentioned in Ex 16:13 and Num 11:31-32:

manna & quail Ex 16:4-34	40 years Ex 16:35	manna & quail Num 11:4-7; 31-33	40 years Num 14:33- 34	end of the 40 years Josh 5:6	manna ends Josh 5:12
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This version is slightly different and was adapted from *The Pentateuch as Narrative*, page 274

“Rock” as a title/name for God (*sur*: pronounced “tsoor”)

- *He is the Rock, his work is perfect, for all his ways are equitable. A trustworthy God who does not wrong, he is the Honest, the Upright One! (Dt 32:4). He has dishonored the Rock, his salvation ... (Dt 32:15c).*
- *You forget the Rock who fathered you, the God who made you, you no longer remember (Dt 32:18).*
- *How else could one man route a thousand, how could two put ten thousand to flight, were it not that their Rock has sold them, that Yahweh has delivered them up? (Dt 32:30).*
- *But their rock is not like our Rock; our enemies cannot pray for us! (Dt 32:31).*
- *The spirit of Yahweh speaks through me, his word is on my tongue; the God of Jacob has spoken, the Rock of Israel has said to me... (2 Sam 23:3, from the last words of King David).*
- 28:1).
- *Since you have forgotten the God of your salvation, and failed to keep the Rock, your refuge ... (Is 17:10a).*

Handout 2: Exodus Lesson 9

I want you to be quite certain, brothers, that our ancestors all had the cloud over them and all passed through the sea. In the cloud and in the sea they were all baptized into Moses; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they drank from the spiritual rock which followed them, and that rock was Christ (1 Cor 10:1-4).

Water from the Rock in Exodus 17:5-7	Water from the Rock in Numbers 20:8-11
1. <i>Go on ahead of the people, <u>taking some of the elders of Israel with you</u>; in your hand take the staff* with which you struck the River, and go (17:5).</i>	1. <i>Take the branch* and <u>call the community together</u>, you and your brother Aaron (Num 20:8a)</i>
2. <i>I shall be waiting for you there on the rock at Horeb. <u>Strike the rock, and water will come out</u> for the people to drink (17:6).</i>	2. <i>Then, in full view of them, <u>order this rock to release its water</u>. You will release water from the rock for them and provide drink for the community and their livestock (20:8b-c).</i>
3. <i>This is what Moses did with the elders of Israel looking on (17:6)</i>	3. <i>Moses took up the branch* from before Yahweh, as he had directed him. Moses and Aaron then called the assembly together in front of the rock. He then said to them, 'Listen now, you rebels. Shall we make water gush from this rock for you? Moses then raised his hand and struck the rock twice with the branch; water gushed out in abundance, and the community and their livestock drank (20:9-11).</i>

* same word in the Hebrew text

Water from the Rock at Horeb (Ex 17:1-7)	Christ's Crucifixion at Golgotha
<p>1. Moses was instructed to take some of the elders of Israel as witnesses (17:5).</p> <p>2. God was on the rock (17:6).</p> <p>3. Moses and Aaron were God's representatives (Ex 3:10; 4:14-16).</p> <p>4. Moses was commanded to <u>strike</u> the rock with his staff (17:5).</p> <p>5. When he struck the rock the people received the gift of life-giving water (17:17:6).</p>	<p>1. Some of the elders of Israel witnessed Jesus' crucifixion (Mt 27:41-42).</p> <p>2. Jesus is the Rock (1 Cor 10:4).</p> <p>3. The elders of the Sanhedrin and the High Priest, who served the people as God's representatives, condemned Jesus to death (Mt 26:57, 66).</p> <p>4. Jesus, the Rock, was "struck" (beaten, crucified & speared in His chest (Mt 26:67; Jn 19:17-18, 34).</p> <p>5. Jesus was crucified on the Cross; when the soldier struck His side with the spear blood and water flowed from His side (Jn 19:34)—the gifts of baptism and the Eucharist.</p>
Water from the Rock at Kadesh (Num 20:2-11)	The Miracle of Christ in the Eucharist
<p>1. Moses was instructed to take his staff and call the assembly of the Old Covenant Church as witnesses to the miracle (Num 20:8a)</p> <p>2. Moses was God's representative.</p> <p>3. Moses was commanded to <u>speak</u> to the rock to bring forth the miracle of life giving water for the sake of the people's temporal salvation (Num 20:8b).</p>	<p>1. At every Mass the assembly of the New Covenant Church witnesses the miracle of the Eucharist.</p> <p>2. The officiating priest is God's representative.</p> <p>3. The priest <u>speaks</u> the words of consecration and Christ becomes present on the altar in the miracle of the Eucharist. His people receive His Body and Blood for the sake of their eternal salvation (Jn 6:53-58; 7:37-38).</p>
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